Vangrams in Madhya Pradesh

†2316. MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY:
SHRI LAXMINARAYAN SHARMA:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Vangrams in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) the action being taken to convert these Vangrams of Madhya Pradesh into Revenue Village; and

(c) by when these Vangrams would be notified as Revenue Villages?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) There are 925 forest villages in Madhya Pradesh.

(b) The Ministry of Environment and Forests issued guidelines dated 18.09.1990 for conversion of such forest villages into revenue villages. Forest villages get converted into revenue villages after de-notification of requisite forest land. The State Governments are required to submit proposals for conversion of such villages into revenue villages for approval of Central Government. The revenue villages fall within the jurisdiction of the revenue authorities of the respective State/Union Territory Governments whereas administration of forest villages rests with State Forest Department. On conversion of forest villages into revenue villages, the villagers are conferred heritable but inalienable rights over the land.

(c) 234 forest villages in Madhya Pradesh have been converted into revenue villages so far. The process has been stayed by the orders of Hon'ble Supreme Court.

Agreement with Japanese firm to make Ganga river pollution-free

†2317. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an agreement has been entered into with a Japanese firm to make the Ganga river pollution-free;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.